Nation, Ordnance Chief Declares on Visit Here

Co-operation of Public And Congress Needed. General Asserts

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Co-operation from congress, industry and the public, and less "name calling," are needed if the Joliet arsenal and similar installations which represent the military strength of the United States are o remain as a permanent guard against agression and future wars.

This was the opinion expressed by Maj, Gen. E. S. Hughes, chief of ordnance and a former member of Gen. Dwight Eisenhower's staff in the European theater of operation, following a tour of the arsenal Friday.

Gen Hughes painted a non-too bright picture for members of the arsenal staff and the press. The picture affects the welfare of Joliet, Will county, the United States and the world, he pointed out.

"IT'S RATHER sad when one "IT'S RATHER sad when one ses a big installation like this almost closed down and the ordnance department wondering where the money will come from to keep it going," Gen. Hughes commented.

Asked how long it would take to convert the arsenal from a stand-by basis to full production in case the need arises, the general said:

"I'm wondering about that

in case the need arises, the general said:

"I'm wondering about that when I see how long it has taken to convert the Kankakee portion of the plant to the fertilizer production program. (This required three months.)

"Every month that the plant remains idle means just that much more time will be needed to return it to effective status. I believe money should be appropriated immediately for maintenance purposes. If the Congress of the United States is in favor of stand-by plants there should be a nitem openly appropriated. We should not have to obtain our operating money from 'camouflaged' sources, as is the case at present.

"WE ARE operating now on

for raising crops.

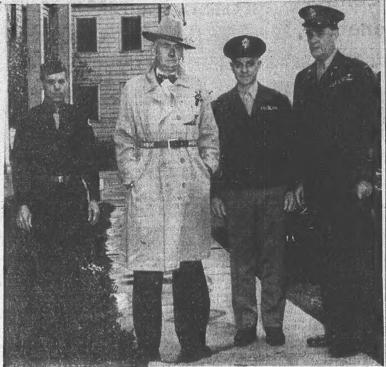
Recently the Reserve Officers association of Will county asked if a part of the land could be used for storing equipment which will be assigned to a full staffed reserve unit in this

"I'M IN FAVOR of using the

"FM IN FAVOR of using the ground for anything which me ans preparedness," Gen. Huches reiterated.
"You see, there has to be ablig team at work. The public must know how its money for taxes is being spent—and why it is being spent that way. I am going to do everything in my power to help keep the Joliet arsenal as a permanent installation."

When informed that the pub When informed that the pur-lic in this area favors keeping the plant permanent primarily because local residents are in-terested in a source of employ-ment, Gen. Hughes appeared disturbed.

HE POINTED out that jobs may be important at the mo-



Veteran of both World wars and the Mexican Punitive campaign, Maj. Gen. E. S. Hughes (right), chief of ordnance, this Friday visited the Joliet arsenal, as a stop on his present national tour of inspection. When he returns to Washington he will present pertinent information in seeking congressional aid for maintenance of such plants as the arsenal. Shown with the general as he arrived for the day's visit are, left to right: Col. Carroll Hudson, commanding officer of the plant; Don M. Compton, chief of the Chicago ordnance district; and Col. Joel Holmes, field director of ammunition plants. (Joliet Arsenal photo.)

printed immeniatory for maintenance purposes. If the Congress of the congress

much higger than the one just finished, he indicated. It is the task of the army, aided and abetted by the civilian population. It is the role of the high